



Testimony in Support of:

**S 389; An Act Concerning Technical Changes to Election Laws, and
H 5441; An Act Concerning Certain Revisions to Elections Related Statutes**

Good morning, Senator Slossberg, Representative Spallone and members of the GAE Committee. I am Melissa Russell, a Registrar of Voters in Bethlehem, and a member of ROVAC.

I am speaking today in support of two bills before your committee: S 389, An Act Concerning Technical Changes to Election Laws; and H 5441, An Act Concerning Certain Revisions to Elections Related Statutes.

Neither of these bills is particularly interesting to the outside public, but they have become very important to Registrars all across the state, as they would bring our elections statutes up to date, using language compatible with today's election equipment, rather than the old lever machines. Also, there are several other provisions in these bills that would regularize and streamline our offices and processes.

Some of these key provisions are:

- Eliminating the many Registry Lists that are now required to be created at certain times throughout the year
- Removing lever machines from the Connecticut General Statutes

This is the third year we at ROVAC have been requesting that these changes be made to our Elections laws. As we continue to strive to hold elections that expressly follow the statutes, it would be most helpful to have those statutes actually reflect what we do and what equipment we use. These changes would also help us save some of the costs of operating our offices, by reducing the number of registry lists we need to produce.

And so, we at ROVAC urge you to support and vote for S 389 and H 5441, and help us run Connecticut's elections in the highest standards possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration today.

Melissa J. Russell
Registrar of Voters, Bethlehem